

Park Planners And D. C. Agree On Land Buying

Recreation Board
Sees Commission;
Proposals Secret

By William A. Miller
District recreation officials and the National Park and Planning Commission reached an agreement today on future land purchases for recreation areas.

Harry S. Wender, chairman of the District Recreation Board, said after his group had conferred with the planners at the beginning of their two-day meeting: "We had a harmonious and constructive meeting with the commission and find ourselves in agreement."

Mr. Wender and Thomas S. Settle, commission secretary, made it clear no public announcement can be made now of the areas under consideration, because the commission is preparing its budget for the next fiscal year. This budget will contain funds for buying land for recreational areas, as well as parks. When purchased, they will be turned over to the District government for operation by the District Recreation Board.

Improved Housing Studied.
Accompanying Mr. Wender were these board members: Mrs. Andrew Saul, Irving C. Root, who is superintendent of the National Capital Parks, and Mrs. Alice C. Hunter, secretary, and the board's staff, headed by Milo Christiansen, superintendent.

Norman C. Brown, the commission's land purchasing officer, reported to the board on negotiations for buying a number of pieces of property for parkways and recreation centers, but no public announcement was made.

This afternoon the District Commissioners and the District Redevelopment Land Agency were to meet with the commission to discuss how to improve housing in underprivileged areas of the city.

Also before the commission is a general development plan for Washington and vicinity including zoning, sewage, highways and other facilities. District Commissioners, officials of the Land Redevelopment Agency and the planners were to go into a closed huddle over plans. But Mr. Settle and John Nolen, jr., the commission's director of planning, both made it clear that no joint action is likely to grow out of this meeting.

"Consultative Meeting."
They described their talks as "a consultative meeting" to determine the viewpoint of each of the three agencies concerned in redeveloping underprivileged areas.

Mr. Nolen will report several decisions recently by the Board of Zoning Adjustment, particularly its approval of a parking lot on the Dean tract at Temple Heights, Florida and Connecticut avenues N.W.

He will bring to the commission's attention zoning problems along MacArthur boulevard, particularly from the District line to Carderock, Md., where the Naval Testing Basin is located.

Mr. Nolen pointed out the commission has a special interest in this, because of the nearness of the George Washington Memorial Parkway scheduled to be developed along the Potomac River banks as far as Great Falls. Zoning plans are being worked out with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Afternoon Session.
The afternoon session was set aside for the presentation by Mr. Settle of a legislative review of action of the recent Congress. The planners are proposing to review commission studies for redevelopment of the Marshall Heights area, bounded by Central avenue, Forty-Ninth street and Benning road S.E. Then public hearings will be held. The District Redevelopment Land Agency then will get the final approved plan, secure funds from Congress and sell the land to public or private builders who must develop it according to plan.

Tomorrow, the planners will consider future Government buildings in the area, receive a report prepared by staff and consultants on population studies from Mr. Bartholomew, of St. Louis, its city planning consultant, give transit and thoroughfare studies.

4-F Pentagon 'Officer' Gets Year's Probation
A wartime Pentagon clerk who gave himself an impressive war record by falsifying military records has been granted a year's probation in a Chicago court.

Federal Judge William J. Campbell, who passed sentence yesterday, told Andrew Keller, jr., 21, of Pontone, Ill., that his crime was not a big one.

"Your record," he commented, "shows you did a good job and served your country well in Washington."

Keller, motivated by his 4-F status as a result of an arm withered from birth, made himself an Army second lieutenant by taking an unused serial number from Pentagon files and filling out a detailed report of wartime adventures.

His downfall came through a routine Army check when Keller applied for promotion to first lieutenant.

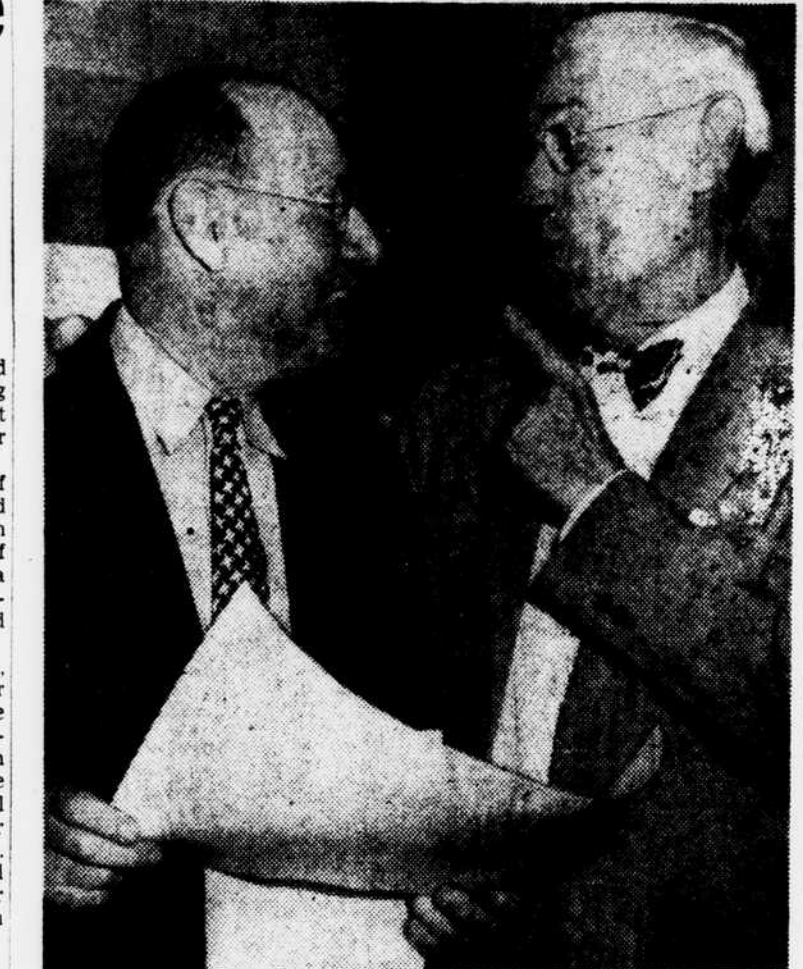
Testimony Cross-Checked In Probe of Gambling
Cross-checking of testimony before the special grand jury investigating gambling here appeared to be the principal concern today of United States Attorney George Morris Fay and his chief assistants in the inquiry, John W. Finley and Charles B. Murray.

Several visitors to their offices were believed to have supplied data on gambling figures who have testified or been mentioned by grand jury witnesses.

The grand jurors had not appeared at the District Court Building by early afternoon. They did not meet yesterday.

The special grand jury has been sitting irregularly since May 17.

'Mr. D. C.' Retires After Years Of Battling Claims Against City



With the advice to "get a lot of fishing done," Commissioner Guy Mason congratulated Edward S. Dawson on his retirement as Inspector of Claims for the District. Mr. Dawson has been with the District since 1909.

By Charles J. Yarbrough
"Mr. District of Columbia," who has saved Washington enough money to buy anything it wants except suffrage, is going to retire.

They handed Edward Stonestreet Dawson a certificate of merit, a letter of commendation and innumerable hearty handshakes in Commissioner Guy Mason's well-filled office this morning.

It marked formal retirement of Mr. Dawson as inspector of claims in the corporation counsel's office and head man of the District's compensation system—a troubleshooter and headache man since 1914.

At 66, the Rockville-born official has been in the District building literally from the ground up. Before he started in the city's highway department on March 1, 1909, he worked with the contractor who built the foundations of "city hall."

His retirement is effective July 1, after which "I'm going to get well and rest," Mr. Dawson has been suffering from high blood pressure of protecting the city's money and its employees over the years.

Every claim presented against the city goes through his office. He has trained a score or more of young assistant corporation counsel in investigative procedure—a fact quickly vouchsafed by the corporation counsel's office.

He has carried blanket authority to call any department or any city official at any time for aid.

Other AAUW Units Declared Affected By Court Case Here
The Washington branch of the American Association of University Women's fight against expulsion from the national association because of a dispute over membership rules bears on the fate of many other branches with similar by-laws, the District Court was told today.

Attorney John A. Croghan, representing the local group, told Justice Bolitha J. Lewis that among the branches having by-laws similar to those of the Washington group on the question of membership are those in San Diego, Calif., and Tulsa, Okla.

A temporary injunction is in force against the national organization restraining it from threatening expulsion of the local branch on grounds its membership rules are in conflict with the national by-laws. The Washington group is seeking a permanent injunction.

By-Law Revision Sought.
The controversy grew out of the Washington branch's refusal to admit a colored applicant, Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, nearly two years ago. The AAUW ruled that the branch must revise its by-laws or face expulsion.

Mr. Croghan asked the court to hold the issue in abeyance until next spring, when a national convention of more than 1,000 branches may dispose of membership rule differences within the organization.

"The issue here is where the Washington branch after 20 years of existence as a constituent and integral part of the AAUW shall be summarily cast out without hearing of any kind," Mr. Croghan declared. He termed the action of the national group "arbitrary and capricious."

Vested Rights Denied.
He argued the national by-laws established the qualification for "eligibility" in requiring possession of an approved college degree. The term "eligible," he asserted, does not create a vested right of membership.

Charles A. Horsky, representing the national group, told the court the question was whether there existed in the national by-laws authority for additional qualifications to be imposed by branches with regard to membership. He maintained there was not.

He said the Washington group has had at least 18 months notice of the position of the national board, in challenging Mr. Croghan's argument that the board's action was arbitrary.

Sandy Spring Firemen Will Hold Carnival
The Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department will hold its 17th annual summer carnival next Wednesday through July 3, it announced today.

A 3-mile parade of fire equipment and floats from several neighboring towns and a country picnic supper will highlight the opening day of the show.

Federal Experts Probe Explosion At Winchester

Assistant Manager
Dies After Blast;
20 Others Injured

By Robert C. Rollings
Star Staff Correspondent

WINCHESTER, VA., June 24.—Experts of the United States Bureau of Mines today sought to determine the cause of an explosion yesterday that resulted in the death of one man injured 20 and wrecked the three-story Rayless department store here.

The victim was Lawrence Owens, 23, assistant manager of the store, who was in the basement when the blast shattered the building. Employees of the store and early morning shoppers were among those injured. Three passersby also were hurt.

Mr. Owens died in Winchester Memorial Hospital at 7:40 p.m. without regaining consciousness. Among the hospitalized was Chris Spanos, a stock clerk, who was with Mr. Owens in the basement at the time of the blast. His condition was listed as serious today.

The Federal investigators are C. W. Owens, mining engineer and safety expert from Washington, and George W. Jones, Pittsburgh, a chemical engineer who aided in the inquiry of the Texas City disaster.

They arrived on the scene about 4 p.m. yesterday, five hours after the basement explosion blasted out the first floor, the front of the store, and the roof of a one-story rear addition which comprised about two-thirds of the building's depth. The rear wall of the two upper stories also was blasted away and the walls of the one-story portion cracked badly.

Also investigating were State Fire Marshal A. J. Bell, Harrisonburg; Fred Saunders, Richmond, representing the State Corporation Commission; local police and fire insurance underwriters.

A statement from investigators was not expected until at least tomorrow.

Mr. Bell said today, however, that his inspection of the wrecked building indicated the explosion was "very similar" to one last year in Harrisonburg, which was attributed to gas. Eleven persons were killed and more than a score injured in that blast on July 29, 1947. The fire marshal did not say, however, that gas was the cause of yesterday's explosion.

The interior of the old brick structure was wrecked. The force of the explosion also smashed plate glass windows in several stores next door and across the street.

Cause of the explosion was thought to have been gas seeping into the basement. A small hole found in a gas pipe appeared to bear out this theory.

Children to Register For Play Program
Registrations for the annual 10-week summer recreation program sponsored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission will be held at 9 a.m. Monday at the various Montgomery County recreation centers and schools where programs will be conducted.

Each program will be in operation from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

All school-age children, including those who will enter school for the first time in September, are eligible to participate. No fee will be charged and equipment will be furnished by the commission.

Recreation centers at which programs will be operated are: Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Rock Creek, North Bethesda (Arlington), Kensington, Glen Echo, Cabin John, Woodacre, Jesup Blair, Pinecrest, Fairway, Hillandale and Capital View.

Ramspeck Talk Tonight
Robert Ramspeck, vice president of Air Transport Association and former Democratic House member from Georgia, will address graduates of the Washington School for Secretaries at 8 o'clock tonight at the Shoreham Hotel.

Mr. Ramspeck said the school is a "Buddy" to his Kramer Junior High School friends, flashed down the course last year a bare one-tenth of a second behind the eventual winner, David Icenhower, during the last elimination in the class "A" division. His car is No. 28.

Robert confirmed his pre-race statements to a mild, "I hope I do better this time."

The hope was expressed by Robert Yates, 12, of 106 Westmoreland avenue, Takoma Park, Md.

The Yates youth, who will be driving car No. 272, was second to Eddie Diehl, 13, of 3610 Lee boulevard, Arlington, in the 1947 final elimination in class "B."

Precare Favorite.
A strong "precare favorite" is Eddie, who lost to Icenhower in the city championship race last year. His car is No. 31.

Product of many months work in the shop at Paul Junior High School is the car which will be driven by Matthew Boring, 14, of 7723 Eastern avenue N.W., John Von Numers, 13, of 1371 Kalmia road N.W., and Jimmy Hanbury, 13, of 7351 Allen-town road S.E., are other contestants who finished high up in 1947. Johan will enter car No. 109, and Jimmy will drive car No. 132.

X-Rays End Wednesday; 485,000 Examined Here
District residents have only until Wednesday to get free X-rays in the Washington Chest Survey's five-month drive against tuberculosis, officials warned today.

Latest figures in the drive show that about 485,000 residents so far have had the chest examinations, and only about 16,000 have been advised to have "retake" X-rays.

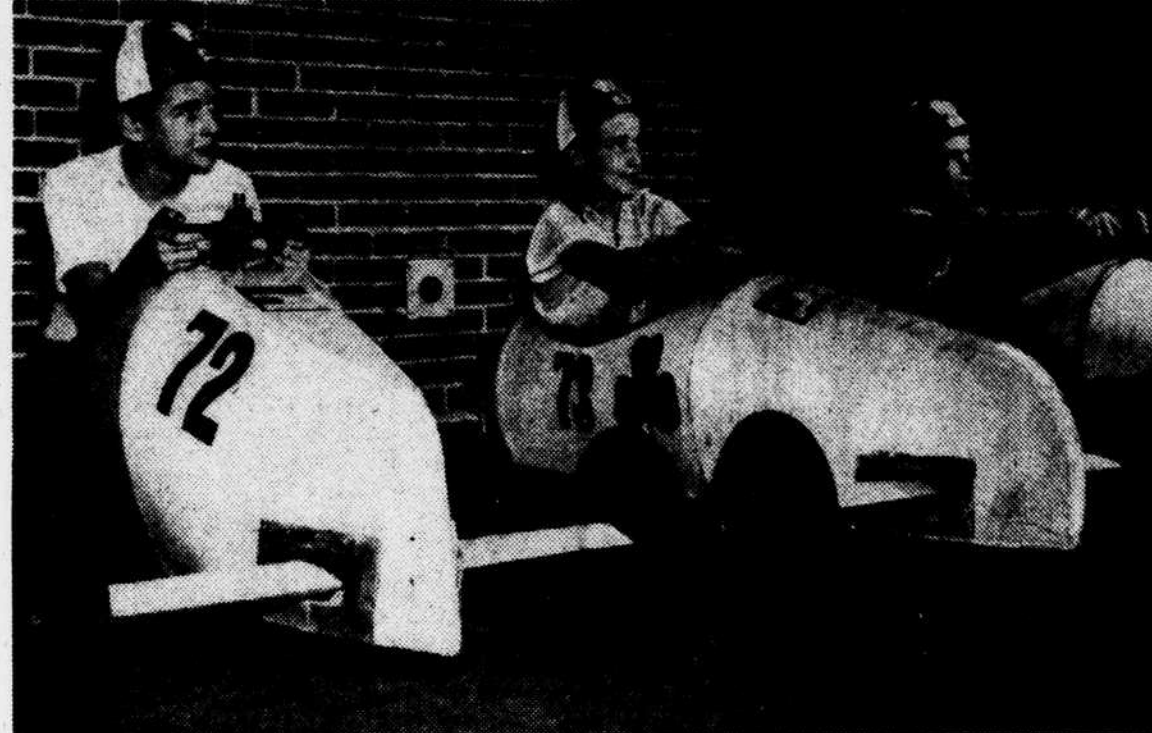
Officials of the survey, which started January 12, said the central X-ray unit at Fourteenth and Pennsylvania avenue N.W. will be closed Saturday. On Monday, however, mobile units usually inactive on Mondays will be open for service at Thirty-fourth and Benning road N.E.; Wisconsin avenue and M street N.W.; and Fourth and G streets S.W. from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The free X-ray service, sponsored by the Health Department, the Public Health Service and the District Tuberculosis Association, is followed up by two years of free medical supervision and advice when necessary in newly discovered cases of the disease.

Rabbi Urges U. S. Jews To Shun Israeli Politics
By the Associated Press
KANSAS CITY, June 24.—Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein of Rochester, N. Y., says American Jews should not interfere in the political life of Israel.

"American Jews will be bound by obligations defined in the Constitution of the United States," he told the Central Conference of American Rabbis last night. "This may at some future time involve them in a conflict of feelings, but the basic duties of American citizenship are clear."

Rabbi Bernstein said American Jews will continue to help Israel with materials and moral support, but the trend of the future must be toward complete disassociation of the non-Palestine Jewry with the political affairs of Israel.



IT'S ALL IN THE FAMILY—The three Noon brothers of 2302 Cheverly avenue, Cheverly, Md., shown here in their racers, are rivals in the Soap Box Derby, but they hope the prize will go to one of them Saturday. Tom Noon, 14, is at left, with David, 13, and John, 11, lined up with him.

Central Drivers' File May Be Set Up Here In Traffic Department

A central drivers' file to keep a complete history of "traffic habits" and dealings between individual drivers and the Department of Traffic and Motor Vehicles may be set up here as a result of a conference today between police and traffic officials.

Traffic Director George E. Keneipp discussed the idea with Inspector Arthur E. Miller, head of the Police Traffic Bureau; Earl P. Hartman of the bureau's statistical office; Deputy Director Wallace Braun of the Department of Traffic and Motor Vehicles; and John Mitton, the department's traffic engineer.

Financial Estimate Asked.
Mr. Keneipp said the Commissioners are "favorably impressed" and have asked him to submit financial estimates to them by July 15. The project, if adopted, could not begin operation before July 1949, because the 1948-9 District budget does not provide funds, he explained.

The lack of such a detailed file is "one of the major defects" of the traffic department, Mr. Keneipp said. The plan, he explained, would work as follows:

Every time a person came to the department, whether for a tag or other service, the nature of his business would be noted on an individual card. If he figured in an accident, whether or not he was responsible for it, the incident would be listed. In that way a person's file could be readily consulted for appropriate information by the traffic department or police at any time.

Central Files Inspected.
Mr. Keneipp estimated that such a central file would be consulted from 1,500 to 2,000 times a day. Today's discussion of the idea, he said, was a follow-up of suggestions at a Safety Council meeting two weeks ago.

Mr. Keneipp and Herman S. Cole, his administrative assistant, recently inspected a central driver's file system in Indianapolis and at Hartford, Conn. It is in operation in several other communities and is advocated by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

'Blue Baby' Surgeons Get Passano Award
By the Associated Press
CHICAGO, June 24.—The \$5,000 Passano Foundation award for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of medical science was presented last night to two doctors who developed the "blue baby" heart operation.

They are Dr. Helen B. Taussig and Dr. Alfred Blalock of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. That is the first time the Passano award has been made to two persons and the first time it has been given to a woman.

The two doctors will be honored at a dinner tonight by the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association in connection with the annual convention of the American Medical Association.

Blue Baby Surgeons Get Passano Award
By the Associated Press
CHICAGO, June 24.—The \$5,000 Passano Foundation award for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of medical science was presented last night to two doctors who developed the "blue baby" heart operation.

They are Dr. Helen B. Taussig and Dr. Alfred Blalock of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. That is the first time the Passano award has been made to two persons and the first time it has been given to a woman.

The two doctors will be honored at a dinner tonight by the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association in connection with the annual convention of the American Medical Association.

Blue Baby Surgeons Get Passano Award
By the Associated Press
CHICAGO, June 24.—The \$5,000 Passano Foundation award for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of medical science was presented last night to two doctors who developed the "blue baby" heart operation.

They are Dr. Helen B. Taussig and Dr. Alfred Blalock of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. That is the first time the Passano award has been made to two persons and the first time it has been given to a woman.

The two doctors will be honored at a dinner tonight by the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association in connection with the annual convention of the American Medical Association.

Blue Baby Surgeons Get Passano Award
By the Associated Press
CHICAGO, June 24.—The \$5,000 Passano Foundation award for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of medical science was presented last night to two doctors who developed the "blue baby" heart operation.

They are Dr. Helen B. Taussig and Dr. Alfred Blalock of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. That is the first time the Passano award has been made to two persons and the first time it has been given to a woman.

The two doctors will be honored at a dinner tonight by the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association in connection with the annual convention of the American Medical Association.

Blue Baby Surgeons Get Passano Award
By the Associated Press
CHICAGO, June 24.—The \$5,000 Passano Foundation award for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of medical science was presented last night to two doctors who developed the "blue baby" heart operation.

They are Dr. Helen B. Taussig and Dr. Alfred Blalock of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. That is the first time the Passano award has been made to two persons and the first time it has been given to a woman.

The two doctors will be honored at a dinner tonight by the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association in connection with the annual convention of the American Medical Association.

Blue Baby Surgeons Get Passano Award
By the Associated Press
CHICAGO, June 24.—The \$5,000 Passano Foundation award for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of medical science was presented last night to two doctors who developed the "blue baby" heart operation.

They are Dr. Helen B. Taussig and Dr. Alfred Blalock of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. That is the first time the Passano award has been made to two persons and the first time it has been given to a woman.

Prince Georges Still Hunts Two After Jailbreak

3 of 5 Fugitives
Caught After Keeper
Is Overpowered

District police and Maryland State and county police early today joined in a hunt for two men remaining at large after a five-man break from the Prince Georges County Jail at Upper Marlboro last night.

The five men, all colored, escaped from the jail at 9 p.m. Three of them were captured 45 minutes later after the jailer's car, in which they made their escape, crashed and they fled on foot.

The recaptured men were taken to the Hyattsville Jail, where they face charges of escape, unauthorized use of an automobile and numerous other charges, according to Sheriff T. Ward Martin.

Still at large today were Preston Wallace, jr., 19, of the 4600 block of Gallatin street, Hyattsville, and John T. Ford, 22, of the 1400 block of Fifty-seventh place, Chapel Oaks, Md.

Wallace Was Held as Burglar.
Wallace, blamed by police as engineer of the break, was being held on two charges of housebreaking and burglary in Hyattsville during May, and was awaiting action of the Prince Georges County grand jury. Ford had been given 30 days on June 10 in lieu of a \$50 fine for assault involving the beating of a woman. He also was being held on a peace warrant.

Recaptured were Charles McManus, 23, Winston-Salem, N. C., awaiting grand jury action on a former prison escape involving passing a bad check; Maurice J. Irving, 28, of the 1200 block of Eastern avenue N.E., awaiting grand jury action on store-breaking and larceny charges, and Alfred Coleman, 19, of the 1200 block of Delaware avenue S.W., who had begun serving a 60-day sentence June 3 in jail for operating a car without a license, speeding and unauthorized use of a car.

Jailer Could Not Pursue.
The jailer who said he was overpowered and then could not give chase for fear other prisoners would flee was William B. Richards, 54, of Westwood, Md.

The jailer gave this story of the break:

He had permitted Wallace to come out of the cellblock to call Hyattsville from a pay phone in a small lobby just outside the cellblock.

Wallace was on the phone only a few minutes. Then he started back for the cellblock with three other prisoners behind him.

The five escapees then went to the outer room, picked up a set of jail keys, the jailer's car keys and a blackjack. They pulled the receiver cord from the telephone so no calls could be made.

The jail-breakers could not find the keys to open the front door of the jail so they left through a basement door. Once outside, they sped off in Richards' new car.

County Police Notified.
Within three minutes after the escape, Richards was able to get a message to the county police station a short distance away.

The remaining prisoners said Wallace had told them he had a pistol at his Hyattsville home. Police raced to the home and picked up the weapon.

Meanwhile, Corpl. Roland Switzer, Pvt. Emmett F. G. Gray and Harry Gosman, desk clerk at the Hyattsville police station, were on their way to a dance at the Prince Georges County Country Club.

They picked up a radio description of the stolen car a short time before they saw a car speeding toward them. Recognizing the automobile, they started after it.

Police said six shots were fired at the fleeing car by Pvt. Gray. Two of them hit the car. A mile after the chase began, the car crashed into a tree on Old River road near Defense highway in Bladensburg.

Fugitives Take to Woods.
The men leaped out of the car and fled through the thick underbrush of the heavily wooded area. Police, aided by volunteer firemen, started combing the area.

The search was continued for the two missing men behind the Fort Lincoln Cemetery and the National Training School for Boys.

Man Loses Fight to Prevent Extradition in Murder
Rochelle Young, alias John Gibbs, 51, yesterday lost his battle in District Court to prevent being returned to North Carolina to face a 22-year-old murder charge. His counsel, however, planned an appeal.

Justice Richmond B. Keech dismissed a habeas corpus writ through which Young, who is colored, sought to be released.

Justice Keech, however, ordered that Young be kept in the District temporarily to permit the defendant's attorney, M. Edward Buckley, jr., to appeal to the United States Court of Appeals from the District Court ruling in the habeas corpus proceeding.

Young was charged in North Carolina in 1926 with killing his brother-in-law, Alexander Satterwhite. Young contends he is innocent and was out of the State at the time of the killing.

Truman OK's Higher Rail Retirement Benefits
By the Associated Press
President Truman signed into law yesterday a measure raising retirement benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act by 20 per cent.

The new act cuts the railroad's contribution to the unemployment insurance fund, the reduction to be effective as long as the fund stays above \$450,000,000. The cut is from the present 3 per cent to one-half of 1 per cent. On April 30 the fund stood at \$928,274,000.

Truman OK's Higher Rail Retirement Benefits
By the Associated Press
President Truman signed into law yesterday a measure raising retirement benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act by 20 per cent.

The new act cuts the railroad's contribution to the unemployment insurance fund, the reduction to be effective as long as the fund stays above \$450,000,000. The cut is from the present 3 per cent to one-half of 1 per cent. On April 30 the fund stood at \$928,274,000.

Truman OK's Higher Rail Retirement Benefits
By the Associated Press
President Truman signed into law yesterday a measure raising retirement benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act by 20 per cent.

The new act cuts the railroad's contribution to the unemployment insurance fund, the reduction to be effective as long as the fund stays above \$450,000,000. The cut is from the present 3 per cent to one-half of 1 per cent. On April 30 the fund stood at \$928,274,000.